

Perspective on Youth Work Developments

CZECH REPUBLIC FACT SHEET

The 3rd European Youth Work Convention (EYWC) plays a key role in launching the implementation of the European Youth Work Agenda (EYWA) as a strategic framework for further developing and strengthening youth work practice and policies in Europe. The goal of this fact sheet is to provide basic information about the perspective on youth work developments in a specific country. All information has been gathered from national contact points, reports or country sheets and profiles available online. The purpose of this fact sheet is to stimulate discussion before, at and after the 3rd EYWC among the members of the national delegations. This information is a suggestion only and a starting point for further development by the delegation when planning actions for implementation of the EYWA.

FACTS

Youth work as a recognised occupation: NO

Legislative framework for youth work: NO

Main youth work actors: (ministries, youth NGOs, municipalities etc.)

- Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport
- youth NGOs, foundations, and associations of legal entities;
- youth institutions affiliated to political parties;
- associations and organisations affiliated to educational institutions;
- youth clubs, groups and associations;
- international organisations.

Highlights with regard to youth work development:

An important milestone in Czechia's progress towards the institutional development of youth work was the establishment of the Expert Group reflecting interconnection between youth work and social work. The group defined the profile of target groups providing and benefiting from youth work and social work as well as facilities which provide youth work and social work. It mapped legislation, statistics, training opportunities and sources of financial support for both youth work and social work. Experts identified fields where youth work and social work can benefit from each other and identified obstacles which make such a close cooperation impossible.

STRENGTHS & SUCCESSES	CHALLENGES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Better understanding between social workers and youth workers - since 2018 youth centers have been able to hire also social workers and cover them from the European Social Fund.• an elaborate system of quality assurance in youth work throughout 15 criteria. Those organizations which meet those criteria are awarded by the title "NGO recognised by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports for providing quality youth work"• Since the end of 2016, The Czech Council of Children and Youth (National Youth Council, Non-governmental structure) started to operate an Analytical Center as a small unit dealing with the information, data and knowledge about youth work, youth policy and youth in cooperations with universities, researchers, private as well as public institutions and organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blurred distinction between Youth work and children work;• "youth work policy" focuses much more on work with children, especially financial support and capacity building support;• No strategy for outreach;• Limited sustainability of grant schemes;• no systematic financial support;• limited services for young people (consultations, counselling, health care).

SUPPORT NEEDED

- Peer-learning for public bodies regarding youth work policy
- Support for greater international mobility of youth workers and youth leaders.

GREATEST NEED FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH WORK IN THE NEXT THREE YEARS

- Establishing youth work as an essential part of youth policies

ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

Youth wiki chapter on youth work: <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/en/content/youthwiki/10-youth-work-czech-republic>

EKCYP youth work country sheet:

https://pjp-eu.coe.int/documents/42128013/47262550/Czech_Republic_Country+Sheet+on+Youth+Work_JB.pdf/38337939-0a37-7d2b-fce0-045e5363fbd7